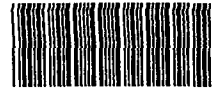


**Cordant  
Technologies****News release**

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Note: For additional  
information on Cordant  
Technologies, see  
<http://www.cordanttech.com/>

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**Thiokol to More Accurately Predict Long-Term  
Aging in Solid Rocket Motors****Brigham City, Utah, July 19, 1999**

Thiokol Propulsion was recently awarded a contract by the Air Force Research Laboratory's (AFRL) Propulsion Directorate, Edwards Air Force Base, California, to create advanced technologies, including the development of computer software and the improvement of analysis models to more accurately forecast aging in solid rocket motors (SRMs). This effort is part of the Strategic Sustainment portion of the Integrated High Payoff Rocket Propulsion Technology (IHRPT) program.

The \$5.2 million contract, the critical defect assessment (CDA) technology program, is the third of three interrelated technology programs sponsored by AFRL and is expected to be completed by September 2003.

The service life prediction and non-destructive evaluation technology program contracts were awarded by AFRL last year. Those two programs will supply the CDA program with the data required to meet the AFRL's and IHRPT's strategic sustainment goal to double the reliable service life prediction for SRMs.

The tools developed on the three strategic sustainment programs will be integrated into one computer analysis code on the CDA program. The computer code will improve the accuracy of SRM analysis and extend the accuracy of predicting long-term aging of SRMs.

Thiokol, a division of Cordant Technologies Inc., has been conducting aging surveillance programs on SRMs for military strategic and tactical armament for 30 years. Thiokol also has continually developed new technology for evaluating the aging process of SRM materials and components and improving existing methods to increase the reliability of service life predictions.

With 17,000 employees worldwide, Cordant Technologies (CDD--NYSE) is a strategically balanced global business with consolidated annual sales of approximately \$2.5 billion. Cordant Technologies' Thiokol Propulsion division is the leading producer of solid propulsion systems: its Huck International subsidiary delivers high performance industrial and aerospace fastener systems; and its Howmet International subsidiary is a global manufacturer of aircraft and industrial gas turbine engine components.

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